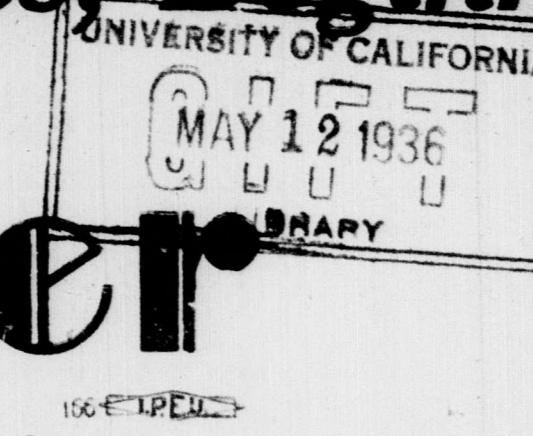


The Western Worker Is Enlarged To Eight Pages, Beginning This Issue

Free Caroline Decker, Lorine Norman, Nora Conklin! Flood The Parole Board With Post-cards and Letters! Repeal The C. S. Act! See Page 3.

Western Worker

WESTERN ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, U. S. A.



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EPICS AT THE CROSSROADS; UNITY WITH ANTI-FASCISTS FOR LABOR PARTY IS NEED

(Statement By District Committee, Communist Party.)

The delegates to the Epic State Convention in Los Angeles on May 10th will have to face the unpleasant facts of the defeat in the May 5th primaries and draw the necessary conclusions. The Roosevelt-McAdoo ticket won the Democratic primaries, not because the voters endorsed McAdoo as against the Epic slate, but because the policy of the Epic leaders did not make the issues clear to the voters, who did not see sufficient difference between the two slates to warrant their supporting Sinclair. Once more as in 1934, Roosevelt helped to defeat the Epic ticket.

The 7-point platform adopted by the Epics, though it provides an excellent basis for a labor and progressive platform, cannot rally the support of farmer and labor organizations as long as the Epic leaders persist in the illusion of trying to capture the Democratic Party of Roosevelt, Farley, and McAdoo. In this respect, the rank-and-file of the Epic movement is far in advance of its leadership and is more and more coming to the realization of the need for building the united front of all labor and progressive forces as a step toward independent political action on a local, state, and eventually a national scale. Only such a policy can successfully unite all the anti-fascist forces in California and defeat the forces of reaction.

The Epic delegates should learn a lesson from the numerous examples throughout the country of local or state labor parties or labor tickets which have won mass support and even succeeded in electing candidates to office in the first elections they entered. They should learn from the decision of the powerful Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party to urge the formation of a national Farmer-Labor Party and local and state Farmer-Labor Parties. They should learn from the growing sentiment in the trade unions and the farmers' organizations for a Farmer-Labor Party. They should especially draw the lessons from the victory of the United People's Front in France.

If the Epics want to stave off another disastrous defeat and complete disintegration, if they want to defeat the Republican and Democratic machines which represent the employer-banker forces of Hearst reaction and vigilanism in California, they must boldly and fearlessly ally themselves with all progressive, anti-fascist forces in the labor movement, including the Communists and Socialists, and build a united front in the coming state and Congressional elections, which can lay the basis for the building of a Farmer-Labor Party in California. Only such a policy can win broad mass support in the trade unions, farmers' organizations, and among the middle classes. Continued faith in Roosevelt and the Democratic Party cannot defeat fascist reaction, cannot stop war preparations, cannot solve the problem of putting the jobless back to work, or protect the living standards and the democratic rights of the people.

The Epic movement is now at the crossroads—the May 10th convention can either seal its doom, or adopt such a course as will launch broad, powerful people's movement that will oust the forces of reaction in California.

BILL HEARING

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 7.—While big business continued to get results from its pressure on the government leading to abandonment of a substantial part of federal relief, hearings on the Marcatonio Relief Standards Act (H. R. 11186) opened here yesterday before a labor subcommittee.

First to speak in favor of the measure, now known as a "Charter of Rights for the Unemployed," was David Lasser, president of the Workers Alliance of America.

DEMAND PASSAGE

Organized jobless from all over the country began sending wires and letters demanding speedy approval of the measure. Hearings will continue the rest of this week.

Meanwhile, at Trenton, N. J., scene of recent occupation of the state assembly building by jobless representatives, the job of caring for the unemployed was dumped in the collective lap of the municipalities. At a conference of legislative leaders it was agreed that Governor Harold G. Hoffman should veto the Loizeau Bill, which would have provided at least a minimum of relief to many now facing actual starvation. (For further jobless details see Page 6.)

Rally Begins C. P. Election Campaign

SAN FRANCISCO, May 7.—Launching the Communist Party election campaign here, a mass rally will be held next Thursday evening, May 14th, at 121 Haight Street.

Speakers will include William Schneiderman, C. P. District Organizer, and Lawrence Ross, San Francisco Section Organizer and Communist candidate for Congress in the Fifth District.

The relation of the Communist platform to the building of a Farmer-Labor Party will be discussed.

Farmer-Laborites in 2 St. Paul Offices

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Three Farmer-Labor candidates were swept into office as commissioners, two of them topping the entire poll. William Mahoney, Farmer-Labor Party candidate for Mayor, was defeated by 6000 out of 83,000 votes cast. Mahoney was chief opponent of Minnesota Farmer-Labor support for a national Farmer-Labor ticket at the recent state convention of the party.

The relation of the Communist platform to the building of a Farmer-Labor Party will be discussed.

Pacific Coast ILA Convention Opens in Pedro

REACTIONARY FORCES LOSE PRIMARIES

Hearst and Merriam Rejected; Epics Show Weak

With less than 600 of California's 11,708 precincts yet to report, President Roosevelt had polled more votes than all his opponents, Democrat and Republican, combined.

The Roosevelt-pledged slate reached 765,930 votes, to 100,864 for Sinclair, and 58,329 for the McGroarty Townsend slate.

The Hearst-Merriam slate in support of Alf Landon took a beating from the Republican voters, tallying 249,185 votes to 237,786 votes for the Warren "uninstructed" slate, believed pledged to support of Herbert Hoover.

It was reliably reported that the slate-picking and campaign-financing of the Warren slate was chiefly done by three "big shots" of California industry and finance: Harry Chandler, publisher of the reactionary Los Angeles Times; George Cameron, publisher of the reactionary San Francisco Chronicle; and Joseph Knowland, publisher of the likewise reactionary Oakland Tribune.

Operators there, discovering they were totally inexperienced, refused to hire them.

Twenty-five mothers without jobs today stormed the offices of Governor Frank F. Merriam demanding relief.

They had been taken off WPA as part of the federal and state drive to reduce WPA rolls and were without food for themselves or their children.

A mother of six children told how she had had nothing in the house to eat for three days but black coffee. All protestants declared that before they had been cut off WPA they had been sent to fish canneries to work.

Operators there, discovering they were totally inexperienced, refused to hire them.

GREEN IS OUT FOR ROOSEVELT ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON.—Departing from the text of his speech before the convention of the Women's Trade Union League, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, strongly endorsed President Roosevelt and the Democratic administration, despite the growth of company unionism under Roosevelt and the use of national guards against strikers by Democratic governors in several states (Kentucky, Indiana, etc.), in recent months.

"We cannot afford to make any change in our present great, forward-looking, social movement," he said. "We have been inspired and thrilled by the leadership that destiny has given us and we want to continue it without change." Asked whether this meant endorsement of Roosevelt and the Democratic administration, Green said "I don't see how it can be interpreted as anything else."

The Green endorsement follows on the formation of the "Labor Non-Partisan League," recently by Berry of the Pressmen, Lewis of the Miners, and Hillman of the Clothing Workers.

BIG DOINGS AT VARSITY PARK

Annual May Day Picnic Scheduled Sunday

SAN FRANCISCO, May 8.—All roads lead to Varsity Park May 10—which is next Sunday.

Varsity Park means picnic. Picnic means, first of all, EATS. There will be plenty of eats at the Annual Workers' May Day Picnic. The picnic will begin at 10 a. m. and will end with a bonfire and mass singing in the evening.

There will be accordion music and a play by the Workers' Theatre; there will be hiking, racing and baseball; dancing will begin at 2 p. m. and the orchestra will play until midnight.

If we had a Farmer-Labor Party we could guarantee sunny weather. But the weather man,

Communist Leaders Hail 8-Page Issue

Saluting the new eight-page Western Worker, the following telegram was received from William Z. Foster, chairman, and Earl Browder, secretary, of the Communist Party, U. S. A.

"Revolutionary greetings to Western Worker, the militant voice of historic and heroic San Francisco General Strike."

"Happy to hear of the eight-page Western Worker which will strengthen the fight of the anti-fascist, anti-vigilante forces on the Pacific Coast."

PICKET CELERY FIELDS DESPITE POLICE TERROR

VENICE, Calif., May 7.—Defying police terror which has been flagrantly used against them, the celery workers in the agricultural fields have recognized their picket lines and are again picketing the fields.

In Culver City, likewise, 150 men and women pickets held a three-mile line in the celery and lettuce fields.

A fleet of police radio cars was sent into the strike area yesterday, but the workers were not attacked.

The Public Works and Unemployed Union has protested the policy of the Relief Administration in forcing unemployed workers into the fields to scab.

The striking field workers have appealed to all trade unionists, workers' organization and sympathizers to help win their fight against the Japanese Growers' Association by sending food and funds for relief to the Mexican Confederation of Unions, 128½ N. Main Street, Los Angeles.

(Further information concerning this strike is on Page 2.)

RECOGNITION OF UNION BALKED

SAN FRANCISCO.—At a conference seeking settlement of the milkers' strike in Marin County, which may affect the Marin-Dell plants in San Francisco, the Consolidated Milk Producers' Association offered to place the dispute before "an impartial arbitrator," but announced their refusal to consider recognition of the Dairy and Creamery Workers Union.

Sam Kagel of the Dairy Workers, and John J. O'Connell of the Teamsters, represented the unions at the conference, which was held in Mayor Rossi's office. Next Tuesday another conference between employers and labor representatives will take place in the Mayor's office.

(See front page for details.)

Salinas Lettuce Strike May Take In 6000 Workers

SALINAS—A walkout of 200 men at the J. A. Simmons Packing House and the Ice Kist Pack Co.'s plant threatened on Thursday to spread to 6000 workers in the lettuce fields in the Salinas Valley. Harvesting of lettuce is now at its height.

Union leaders charged that active unionists were discharged on the pretext of "inefficiency," and said that the strike was based on violations by the shippers of wage and hour agreements.

Lumberjacks Must Be Rehired By Wash. Co.

SEATTLE.—The Carlisle Lumber Co. of Onalaska, Wash., has been ordered by the Regional Labor Board to cease its refusal to bargain collectively with the Timber and Sawmill Workers Union, Local 2511. All workers who were on the payroll as of last August 5, whose jobs have been filled by other workers, are to be offered reinstatement and their successors dismissed, the order states.

And that's why all roads lead to Varsity Park, three miles west of Menlo Park this Sunday, May 10. Join the crowd. Where the crowd goes there's a reason.

REGISTER COMMUNIST AS BLOW AGAINST REACTION!

POLICE REFUSE TO TESTIFY IN GRAFT INQUIRY

Source of Wealth Not Yet Wrung From Hoertkorn

SAN FRANCISCO, May 7.—Captain Thomas (Silent) Hoertkorn, commander of the Southern Station of the S. F. Police Department, his wife, Mrs. Emma Hoertkorn and their son, Harold Hoertkorn, may face contempt of court charges for their refusal to testify before a grand jury investigating committee here regarding the extent and sources of the Hoertkorn fortune.

Hoertkorn is known to hundreds in the downtown section here for his brutal attacks on workers, many of whom he and his assistants clubbed unmercifully during street meetings.

Others who refused to testify, thereby admitting their guilt, include Sergeant Patrick (Lucky) Shannon, Patrolman Joseph Michael Boudre and Lieutenant Henry Ludolph. Shannon, it will be remembered, said he had cleaned up \$25,000 on the races through the advice of a mysterious tipster, "Monk," and had hidden the roll under a woodpile at his home.

Ludolph refused to answer grand jury questions on "constitutional grounds." The other three may face contempt charges for their sudden clam-like attitude.

FISHING

Captain Hoertkorn earlier in the investigation declared he had put \$7,000 in an old trunk and had left it there for 15 years. He said his wife was his fiscal agent. Away on a convenient "fishing trip" is Patrolman James H. Coleman who suddenly retired from the force last week after 29 years of "faithful" service. He has a fortune estimated at \$90,000. His whereabouts is unknown.

The investigation, already sufficiently far along to ascertain there is something extremely "fishy" about the finances of the police, is faced with a shortage of funds which will have to be made up through a special budget appropriated, it is understood. Mayor Rossi and the board of supervisors have the power to grant the necessary funds.

Salinas Lettuce Strike May Take In 6000 Workers

SALINAS—A walkout of 200 men at the J. A. Simmons Packing House and the Ice Kist Pack Co.'s plant threatened on Thursday to spread to 6000 workers in the lettuce fields in the Salinas Valley. Harvesting of lettuce is now at its height.

Union leaders charged that active unionists were discharged on the pretext of "inefficiency," and said that the strike was based on violations by the shippers of wage and hour agreements.

GERMANY FLOUNDERING

The economic crisis in Germany is now so severe that every authority, however reactionary, is forced to admit its gravity. To meet the situation, Hitler has taken the economic reins out of the hands of Dr. Schacht, and placed them in the hands of his right-hand man, Herman Goering, who is known to the world as a dope fiend, a homosexual and a pathological case.

Goering is the author of the recently exposed fascist program of conquest which includes invasion of the Soviet Union and seizure of the Ukraine, a re-division of Europe dividing the territories of the small nations among the fascist powers, and war with France, the appropriation of her colonies, the armed suppression of the powerful Peoples' Front and the substitution of a fascist government.

Great Britain and the United States are faced with the alternatives of financing the fascist powers in a war against the Soviet Union or the bankruptcy and inflation will be the result.

"We shall go ahead with our education program," said Sinclair, "and keep before the people."

Sinclair described Roosevelt's measures as "inadequate."

"Profits have been doubled, but wages have not been increased nor unemployment decreased," Sinclair said. "And if this is not remedied, bankruptcy and inflation will be the result."

Senator Borah Searches For an Idea



One of the chief contenders for the Republican presidential nomination looks for an idea while newspapermen wait impatiently. Senator Borah, an old war horse from Idaho, has given Governor Landon a good run for the nomination. Neither one has a record that indicates labor could trust them to further the interests of the working class.

ITALIAN VICTORY IN AFRICA RAISES DANGER OF NEW WAR

IMPERIALISTIC POWERS SEEKING MORE PROFITS, NOT PEACE

Italian troops have occupied Addis Ababa. The Ethiopian army has been shattered and Haile Selassie has fled the country. Italy staggers on the brink of bankruptcy, bled white by the exorbitant costs of her conquest. Friction between British and Italian imperialist interests has resulted and the Mediterranean is pregnant with the possibility of a new war.

The League of Nations has been turned into the laughing stock of the world.

The governments of all capitalist nations have lost prestige in the eyes of their populations. All peace guarantees resulting from the World War have been destroyed and all capitalist authorities cynically regard a new world conflict as inevitable.

DRUNK WITH POWER

Mussolini proclaims to the world that he is satisfied. A moment later he turns round and informs the Italian populace that the Ethiopian war was only the beginning and that the Italian army will march to new and greater victories.

Developing the Italian war machine and financing the African campaign was accomplished by lowering the standards of living of the Italian people and straining the nation's resources to the annexation of a vast territory in a state of rebellion. The complete subjugation of the vanquished people and the development of the area call for new expenditures on an equal scale.

Sam Jones Freed In L. A. Frame-Up

LOS ANGELES, May 4.—The attempted frame-up of Sam Jones, militant Negro leader of the Public Works and Unemployed Union, by the Los Angeles County Relief Administration, in co-operation with the Los Angeles "Red" Squad, failed when Municipal Judge Wm. McKay dismissed the case because of "lack of evidence."

Jones was tried on charges of "disturbing the peace" and "battery" preferred by Frank Finnen, L. A. C. R. A. executive and asserted police officer, and though testimony by workers clearly exposed

YOUTH CONGRESS CALLS FOR MEMORIAL DAY ANTI-WAR ACTS

L.A. LATHERS PATROL WILL GUARD SCALE

LOS ANGELES.—The Lathers' unit of the Allied Building Crafts has formed a rank and file patrol system to enforce provisions in the new wage scale. The scale will take effect May 15 and calls for \$4 per thousand for wood, \$1 an hour for all other lathing, and double pay for Saturday or Sunday work.

RANK AND FILE PATROLS
The patrol, consisting of at least 25 cars with 50 men, will at first concentrate on the last-named point. It was felt at the Lathers' meeting on May 4 that once a closed shop and 40 hour week is established, chiseling on wages will be easily stopped.

Fred Hunter, business agent of the Lathers, reported that for the past week there had been many more calls for men than he could supply. He urged lathers to call at the union office rather than on individual bosses for work, so that contractors who are cooperating with the union might get the breaks.

Nearly all the contractors work alongside the journeymen with their tools, and stand ready to unite with the latter in a struggle against the higher-ups. The newly formed contractors' organization has pledged to pay the new scale, carry compensation insurance, run a closed shop, and pay off once a week.

RAPID GROWTH

Plans of the Board of Directors to submit a new charter for the Allied Building Crafts were approved. The rapid growth of the organization in its nine months of existence has made the old charter out of date. A group from Glendale, which grew from seven to 40 in two days, applied for admission and was voted in by the local membership, but the old charter makes no provision for such a case.

The Board also recommended that the Allied rent an office for plasterers and lathers both.

Wide Support for Rights Amendment

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 6.—Support to a resolution calling for a Farmers' and Workers' Rights Amendment to the Constitution, has been pledged by nine state federations of labor and a large number of city and county federations, trade union locals, and fraternal organizations. It was stated yesterday by the National Affairs Committee of the Socialist Party.

Introduced by Senator Benson of the Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party, the proposed amendment would give Congress specific power to legislate in connection with child labor, minimum wages, collective bargaining, old age pensions, sick and unemployment relief, and natural resources.

Among the state federations endorsing the proposed amendment, according to the committee, are Idaho, Arizona, Connecticut, Indiana, Minnesota, Montana, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.

R.R. Labor Gyped On Dismissal Wage

WASHINGTON.—A committee representing railway management and the railway labor unions reached a virtual agreement on Wednesday on a scale of dismissal wages for over 200,000 workers who will be out for good when the railroad consolidations go through soon.

Under the proposed agreement, a worker who had worked for the railroad one year, but less than two years, would receive 60% of full pay for 6 months, or a lump payment of 3 months' wages.

Older employees displaced would receive higher dismissal compensation, the maximum to be 60% of full pay for five years, or a lump payment of one year's wages to employees with 15 years or more service.

Such a settlement goes directly against a strong rank and file sentiment against dismissal wages, but for a six-hour day instead, so that there need be no displacements. Scores of resolutions by railway labor bodies have insisted that the railway union executives fight against dismissal wage plan.

WOMEN OF THE NEW SOUTH



These two strikers before a hosiery plant in Rockwood, Tenn., were dragged off the picket line by deputy sheriffs because they voiced objections to seeing scabs take their jobs.

FROM TWICE A MONTH TO TWICE A WEEK, 8 PAGES

Western Worker Grows in Four Years

On October 10th, 1931, a little mimeographed sheet appeared on the streets of San Francisco with announcements of the Communist candidates in the coming election. It was the first issue of the Western Worker.

"It isn't very much," said the workers. "But we can build it. And the truth scrawled on a piece of paper is better than thirty-six printed pages daily of Hearst's yellow propaganda."

Many meetings in halls, homes and on the street corners followed. Dimes, nickels and pennies were gathered in battered hats. Sometimes the police appeared and battered heads. Sometimes speakers were arrested and booked on false charges, since no one could legally be arrested for speaking about a workers' newspaper.

VOL. I NO. 1

On January 1st, 1932, a full-size, six-page Western Worker appeared and was sold on the streets of all Pacific Coast cities. It appeared regularly twice each month.

"Twice a month is not very often," said the workers. "But we can build it."

In every town and city workers discussed their paper and formed committees to spread its circulation and develop news sources. The Western Worker had no editorial or circulating apparatus of its own. These tasks were performed by the workers themselves, and still are to this date. They used the paper to voice their demands, build their organizations, fight their struggles.

ONCE A WEEK

On October 24th, 1932, the Western Worker began appearing every week.

"Now we are getting somewhere," said the workers. "But we can't stop here. Our paper must grow with the developing class consciousness of American labor. And, at the same time, it must help that class consciousness to grow. We need a stronger paper."

THE SIX PAGER

The Western Worker rode proudly through its greatest crisis and came out a bigger, stronger paper than before. Through months during which windows of the editorial offices were smashed continuously, newsboys waylaid by thugs and beaten, and threats were continually received in the mail, the Western Worker continued to grow. It increased from four pages twice a week to six pages twice a week.

EIGHT PAGES

Today we celebrate another landmark with the twice-weekly eight-page Western Worker.

The workers have told themselves: "We don't like the capitalist press and its fascist lies. But we can have any kind of a paper we want. All we have to do is organize and build it and defend it against attacks."

And the workers have told themselves: "We don't like the capitalistic system. But we can have any kind of government or society we want. All we have to do is organize and build it and defend its growth against the powers of reaction."

American artists have decided to boycott Mussolini's international show in Venice this summer. Police were searching for editors and

INDICTMENTS OF KING ARE THROWN OUT

E. Coast ISU Official Admits Agreement Not So Hot

SAN FRANCISCO.—Felony indictments against Earl King, leader of the Marine Firemen's Union, and A. M. Murphy, his assistant, accusing the two officials of "criminal libel" in the reported Ivan Hunter murder plot, were dismissed on Thursday by Superior Judge I. L. Harris. The indictments concerned only a misdemeanor, and not a felony. Harris ruled in sustaining a demurrer filed by George Andersen, the militant labor officials' attorney.

The indictments were the result of an attempt by shipowners and their agents in political office to turn into a frameup against King and Murphy charges that Hunter, reactionary-treasurer of the International Seamen's Union, had paid a fireman named Neill to "rub them out." Neill refused to go through with the deal, he reported.

Deputy District Attorney Fourner announced after Judge Harris' dismissal of the indictments that he will return the matter to the Grand Jury for further action.

GRANGE ADMITS RAW DEAL

NEW YORK CITY.—Cross examined during his injunction suit to restrain the East Coast I. S. U. rank and file strike committee from continuing its activities, David E. Grange, vice-president of the I. S. U., admitted that he had signed a wage agreement with shipowners without consulting the union membership. He admitted the terms of the agreement were not in accordance with what the members wanted, by claiming that he had been assured the terms would later be revised "in favor of the seamen."

After the court session on Wednesday, Joseph Curran, rank and file strike leader, said that about 4,400 seamen had already joined the strike in protest against the agreement, which does not allow extra pay for overtime, nor hiring halls.

The entire crews of the freighters City of Mobile and Luckenbach are out, he said.

ITALY VICTORY OPENS WAY TO FURTHER WARS

(Continued from Page 1)
It is or going to war with them to prevent them from dominating the imperialist scene. In the past, they have financed and developed the fascist nations, partly out of the desire to sell them war machinery and principally to prevent revolutions in those nations. Today, these fascist nations have turned into Frankenstein's and threaten to run amuck unless their imperialistic appetites are satisfied.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Meanwhile, in France and Spain, the people have expressed their mass disgust with the bloody insanity of capitalism by uniting in strong United People's Fronts and virtually seizing the reins of government. Capitalist powers are greeting these People's Fronts with campaigns of sabotage and violence to the extent that they cannot stand still. They must either go forward to the establishment of Socialism or backward into the bloody slough of capitalism. No disposition toward retreat is evident in either France or Spain.

Further foreign news on page five. In the next issue: The Facts Behind the Palestine Riots, a special report from the European correspondent Pierre Van Passen. Also: Fortifications in the Pacific, an analysis of the conflicting interests of Japan, Britain and the U. S. A.

\$2,035,000 Dole For 'Is Majesty'

LONDON, May 8.—The House of Commons has appropriated \$2,035,000 annually to defray the incidental expenses of the British Royal Family. Communist and left-wing laborites opposed the motion vigorously, but were voted down by the nob majority in the House.

WORTH HER WEIGHT IN GOLD



Mrs. Gloria Vanderbilt (right) evidently feels that her 11-year-old daughter, heiress to a \$4,000,000 New York Central Railroad fortune, is worth her weight in gold, for every weekend she spends \$191 to entertain little Gloria. That means cutting expenses to the bone, the mother testified in a New York court.

Maritime Labor Groups Endorse Move For California Farmer-Labor Party

RESOLUTION URGES OUSTING OF BOSSSES' AGENTS FROM GOVT

The movement for a Farmer-Labor Party in California has been given new drive by the resolution passed by the Marine Firemen, Oilers, Watertenders and Wipers' Association. The resolution was endorsed also by District Council No. 2 of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific. Because of its importance we reprint extracts from the resolution:

WHEREAS: The waterfront employers, the bankers, industrial associations, and chambers of commerce and their agents in the government of the state and nation, are continually striving to cut wages and destroy unionism and take away the constitutional and civil rights of the workers; and

WHEREAS: These forces are doing their utmost to weaken and destroy the growing solidarity of labor as exemplified by the Maritime workers through united effort, and

WHEREAS: The great productive mass of small farmers are all in severe economic distress; and

WHEREAS: In nearly all the struggles of union labor and of the exploited small farmers, they find themselves opposed by armed forces, the police and National Guard called out by the officers of the city and state who represent the Republican and Democratic machines, and as has been amply demonstrated, the Republican and Democratic Parties are controlled by Wall Street and the banking and business interests of the country; and

WHEREAS: We can out the agents of the employers from the government set-up only through the instrument of independent political action based on organized labor and supported by the exploited farmers and people generally, and

WHEREAS: The strong support for a United Labor Party at the recent A. F. of L. Convention, including six International Unions has been followed by a tremendous development of this movement in nearly all states and hundreds of cities with many state federations of labor and Central Labor Councils, having endorsed the formation of a United Labor Party, and

WHEREAS: The Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party, primarily based on the trade unions, at its convention in March called for the formation of a National Farmer-Labor Party, and Labor Parties in various states; Therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this organization, the Pacific Coast Marine Firemen, Oilers, Watertenders and Wipers' Association go on record endorsing the formation of a National Farmer-Labor Party and State and local Labor Parties based on the above conditions and principles, and pledges to work for the formation of such a party; and be it further

RESOLVED: That we urge the Maritime Federation to recommend to all maritime local unions in the different ports to initiate

TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF AMERICA:

As May 30th approaches, the thoughts of America return to the memory of those who have fallen in wars fought by our country. It is especially desirable that the youth of America commemorate these dead in a fitting manner.

Covered with wreaths, the youth of another generation lies in everlasting sleep. For them there are no more uniforms and rumbling cannon; no poison gas can wither their lungs, or machine guns pierce them. All of this was theirs not so long ago. Today it is our unhappy heritage—and future.

It is also our heritage to know that these dead perished in wars fought for the gain and profit of a small, greedy minority. The financial interests, the munition makers, the industrialists of 1898 and 1917 are today putting their vampire mark on our generation, for jobs and adequate educational facilities, has found sufficient wealth to enter the race for death and lead us where those whose memories we honor went.

"NOT IN VAIN"

Let us, therefore, this May, as the cannon resound, honor the dead by a solemn demonstration for peace. Let us, in the words of Abraham Lincoln, here "resolve that those who gave their lives, have not died in vain," that we shall use the heritage and experience of the dead to cement the unity and determination of the youth of America in the fight for peace. As a living memory to the dead and in the interests of peace, let us stop American industrial and financial interests from helping the warmakers of other nations and halt its effort to militarize us here at home.

JOBS, not cannon—pass the American Youth Act! Abolish the R. O. T. C.! Stop the shipment of war materials! War anywhere means war everywhere! Take the army out of the C. C. C.! Recall American gunboats from foreign waters!

NATIONAL COUNCIL AMERICAN YOUTH CONGRESS

WAGE TESTIMONY TABOO

SAN FRANCISCO.—State Railroad Commissioner Ware refused to allow Preston Davis, attorney for the San Francisco Auto Mechanics Union, to cross-examine Santa Fe officials on the 70 cents an hour wage scale, at a hearing through which the Santa Fe is seeking a certificate to operate a competitive auto stage line in California.

Let unity between Socialists and Communists blaze the way to unity of all toilers!

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City _____ State _____

California Labor Notes

BANK OF AMERICA IS BEHIND VENICE STRIKE TERROR

BANKERSFIELD.—Representatives from oil workers unions throughout the state met here and perfected the permanent organization of the California State Council of Oil Workers. J. C. Coulter was chosen president and E. B. Daniel secretary-treasurer.

TRONA.—A new Borax Workers' Union, with a membership of 100 men, is affiliated with the A. F. of L. The plant at Trona employs 900 and the new union is combatting a company union. Several men instrumental in forming the new union have been discharged.

VALLEJO.—At the meeting of the Solano County Central Labor Council a motion was passed to go on record for the repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act. Credentials were issued to a committee to visit other unions to try to get them on record for repeal, and to circulate petitions. Only two delegates oppose the motion, on the grounds that they were not familiar with the law.

VALLEJO.—John A. Edwards, acting secretary of the Central Labor Council, announced a new wage scale, effective June 14 for carpenters. The \$1 an hour scale will be raised to \$1.12 one-half.

OAKLAND.—The delegates from the Building Trades Council reported to the Central Labor Council that his organization plans a mass meeting in an effort to organize the thousand or more workers employed by the East Bay Municipal Utility District.

SAN RAFAEL.—Milkers on 60 Marin County ranches are still striking for \$65 a month for handling 30 cows, and for two days on a month and recognition of the Dairy and Creamery employees Union. Union teamsters still refuse to haul scab milk.

Police Approve New Bomb Throwing Gun

PONTIAC, Mich.—New types of machine guns that throw gas bombs a distance of 100 yards are being displayed by the Manville Mfg. Co. of this city.

The company recently invited police officials of Pontiac, Flint, Detroit and other large cities to attend a demonstration of the new weapon, and bombs loaded with tear and vomit gas were fired over the municipal golf course. The police officials expressed satisfaction with the outcome.

The fact that new men have been hired in the department making the gun shows that quite a few orders are coming in from police departments.

UNITED TICKET WINS
NOME, Alaska.—A united front of the Public Ownership League and the Industrial Workers of Alaska has swept into office a mayor, a member of the school board, and two out of three councilmen in the municipal elections here.

Crane Undergoes Appendix Removal

SAN QUENTIN PRISON, May 6.—Jack Crane, victim of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, was reported in good condition and on the road to recovery at the prison hospital here today, following an operation performed by Dr. Stanley yesterday afternoon.

Although the original diagnosis was stomach ulcers, it was discovered that the real trouble was a badly inflamed and enlarged appendix with bad adhesions to the stomach. Apparently the appendix had been ruptured some time previously.

The appendix was removed, Crane's recovery is expected to be much more rapid than if the operation had been for stomach ulcers.

Oakland Council For Frazier Bill

OAKLAND.—One month ago the Teachers' Union presented a resolution asking the Central Labor Council to endorse the Frazier-Lundeen Social Insurance Bill. At that time it was voted to lay the matter over for one month so as to give the delegates time to study the bill.

LAUNDRY WORKERS
The secretary of the Council reported that last Tuesday the Laundry Workers and the Laundry Wagon Drivers Union placed pickets around the plant of the Oakland Towel Co.

"A super-patriot is a munitions maker."—Major General Smedley D. Butler.

FIGHT URGED TO FREE C. S. GIRL VICTIMS

Flood Parole Board With Postcards, Urges Nugent

SAN FRANCISCO, May 7—Caroline Decker, Nora Conklin and Lorine Norman, Sacramento victims of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, will face the State Board of Prison Terms and Paroles within the next week or two, it was learned here today.

"Whether the prison terms of these heroic girls, now in Tehachapi Women's Prison are set at the minimum time served, depends upon the heightening of the pre-immediate release," declared Herbert Nugent, state secretary of the Conference for Repeal of the C. S. Act.

The postcard campaign must reach new heights if the girls are not to receive the same stiff and inhuman sentences that were handed out to Pat Chambers, Martin Wilson, Al Hougaard, Jack Crane and Norman Minn.

Postcards, bearing the girls' pictures, may be obtained in mass quantities from 68 Haight Street, San Francisco, and from the Southern California Councils for Constitutional Rights, 129 West Second Street, Room 326, Los Angeles.

FREE LOUISE TODD!

Louise Todd, who was convicted and sentenced to 1 to 14 years a technical and discriminatory in Tehachapi Women's Prison on section of the perjury law, has applied to the State Board of Prison Terms and Paroles for a hearing at the regular session of the board about the middle of May. The State Conference urges that protests be sent to the board demanding the minimum sentence be set.

Demands that the minimum term of 10 months, which would expire September 15th next, be set should be sent to Frank Sykes, Konl Building, San Francisco.

Louise Todd's mother and George Andersen, International Labor Defense attorney, will appear before Sykes with this demand.

Meanwhile, the fourth central labor body affiliated with the State Conference for Repeal of the C. S. Act and joined in the California-wide campaign to repeal this anti-labor statute, the Solano County Central Labor Council thus joined the central bodies of Alameda County, Contra Costa County and Marin County.

Delegates to the Building Trades Council of Alameda County took out referendum petitions for 21 trade unions affiliated on last Monday night.

NEW HEADQUARTERS

Regional headquarters for the campaign have been set up at 532 Sixteenth Street, Room 410-F, Oakland, with all three East Bay Central Labor bodies participating.

In San Francisco, committees of organizations and individuals will be set up in all nine assembly districts of the city, following a meeting of all local delegates to the recent Sacramento Congress to be held on Monday night at 7:30 at the campaign headquarters at 68 Haight Street.

New affiliates to the State Conference are being obtained almost daily from trade unions, unemployed organizations, churches, fraternal organizations, etc.

At the present time 235 organizations are affiliated to the conference throughout California.

★ ★ ★

Butte Miners Rally In May Day Meet

BUTTE, Mont.—Approximately 250 workers of this mining city rallied at the Miners Union Hall here in celebration of May Day. Plans for an open-air meeting and parade had to be abandoned at the last moment because of showers and threatening skies.

Sponsored by a United Front May Day Committee, the meeting had been endorsed by the Silver Bow Trades and Labor Council and several A. F. of L. locals, including the powerful Butte Miners Union.

★ ★ ★

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Messenger Boys Win Higher Pay In Brief Strike

SAN FRANCISCO, May 7—Last week the three messenger boys of the Drumm and California street office of the Postal Telegraph Co. won wage increases by a brief strike. Denied their first demands, they walked out on strike and visited all the customers they had been serving, explaining that all they were fighting for was enough to buy shoes and food.

They had been getting 2 cents a message. They wanted 2½ cents. Their methods were so effective that they were called back to work within a few days and their demands were granted.

PAT CHAMBERS



EMPLOYERS TO PAY SURCHARGE FOR SILICOSIS

SAN FRANCISCO, May 5—"Silicosis surcharges" were ordered added to present premiums paid by California employers for workers' compensation insurance, here today by Samuel Carpenter Jr., state insurance commissioner.

Sixty-six industries, including

mining, foundries, glass manufac-

ture and cement manufacture,

where silic dust menaces work-

ers' health, will be affected by the surcharges when the new rates become effective June 1, 1936.

The rates approved by Carpen-

ter were far below those pro-

posed by the insurance compa-

nies, through the Insurance Rating Bu-

reau last year, and are a conces-

sion to the violent attacks made

on these higher rates by big in-

dustrialists.

Approved surcharges range from

34 cents to \$5.61 per \$100 per

payroll, compared to the bureau's

proposal of 84 cents to \$28.07 per

\$100 of payroll.

Employers taking "special

safety measures" will receive as

much as 50 per cent reduction in

the approved surcharges, and in-

dustry maintaining especially

dangerous working conditions are

to be penalized.

Carpenter stated in a written

opinion that present insurance

rates do not adequately cover

silicosis risks, which have in-

creased in recent years.

★ ★ ★

The Picket Lines and 75 Laundry Workers Signed Applications Out on the Sidewalk.

In about one and one half hours

the boss sent out for the union rep-

resentatives and after a little con-

ference agreed to grant a three-

dollar per week raise at once and

discuss other demands at a later

conference after the workers went

back to work.

Since this victory about 100

workers there have signed up in

the unions. It is thought that an-

other strike may be necessary to

force the signing of the demands.

It was reported that a confer-

ence had been arranged with the

manager of Galenkamp's Shoe-

stores to sign the union agree-

ment. Just prior to this meeting

petition to the secretary of the

Council was brought in to the of-

fice signed by 18 employees stating

that they are satisfied with the

present working conditions. This

virtually amounted to turning down

a \$5 raise. It is strongly sus-

pected that considerable coercion was

used.

The Council adopted a resolution

presented by the Professional

Workers' Union protesting against

the abandonment of "white collar"

WPA projects.

CONSERVATIVES

Then wavering to the other

side, Brennan brought in again all

the old accusations which are

being permitted to State witnesses

to show their "frame of mind."

He told of a labor delegation, con-

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EDITORIALS

Fifty Million Frenchmen Can't Be Wrong

The decisive election victory of the People's Front in France over the reactionary-fascist bloc is a powerful lesson to the American people on what the united front can accomplish. The united front policy consistently advocated by the French Communist Party to combat the danger of war and fascism won the masses of the Socialist Party and the Radical Socialist Party to such an extent that the opposition of the Socialist and Radical Socialist leaders to the united front was broken down, and both these parties joined with the Communists in the People's Front which won not only the working class to its banner, but also the middle class elements, peasants, intellectuals, and small shopkeepers.

This sample is the best answer to those people who say, "We are not against the united front, but not with the Communists; the Communists will drive the middle class away." On the contrary, the united front in France not only served to unify the working class and strengthen it, but attracted to itself all the petty-bourgeois elements that hated and feared fascism, opposed war, and were seeking a way out of the crisis they found themselves in. The failure to build the united front would have driven the middle class elements into the arms of Fascism, as it did in Germany, where the fascists made special appeals with their demagogic to win them over.

Some people also have the excuse, "The Communists advocate the united front only as a maneuver, a trick." But the victories of the united People's Front in France and Spain have proven that the united front is not a maneuver, that it is just what the Communists insist it is, the most powerful weapon to unify the masses of people against the advancing danger of fascist reaction and war, and to defend the living standards and civil liberties of the people.

The Communists have demonstrated their sincerity in advocating the united front, and the recognition of this is seen in the sweeping victories of Communist candidates in France; it is a vote of confidence by the French people who recognize the leading role played by the Communist Party in bringing about the United People's Front.

The American people can learn from this example. Socialists, trade unionists, Epics, Townsendites, should see from this example, how the building of a united people's front, through the building of a Farmer-Labor Party, can defeat the forces of reaction, the war-mongers, and take effective measures to preserve our democratic rights and defend the economic and political interests of the masses.

We congratulate the French people on their victory. Let us go forward to the building of the American People's Front. Forward to a Farmer-Labor Party

Join the Crowd at the May Day Picnic Sunday

Too many of us are tied to the job, nose to the grindstone, for too many days, weeks, months—and yes, years. Those of us who haven't jobs are tied to an even deadlier regime from which there is no "out."

The sun shines but we hardly see it. The grass is green and the flowers bloom—but not for us. There are thousands like us—but we never meet them.

Once a year San Franciscans are given

Western Worker

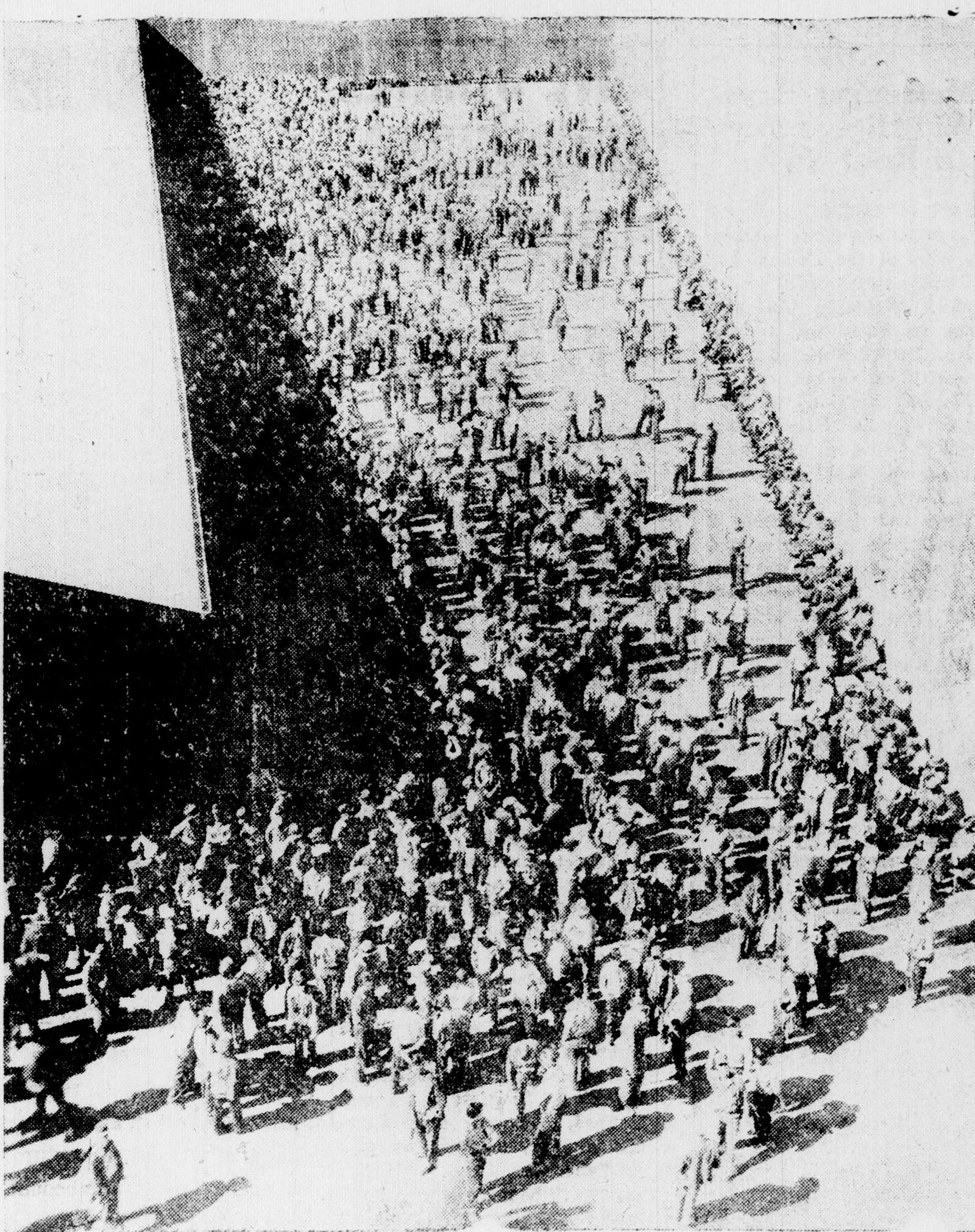
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Oakland Office, 419 Twelfth Street.
Sacramento Office, 1024 Sixth Street.
San Pedro Office, 221 W. Sixth Street.

We Must Get Five C. S. Prisoners Out of Here!



A hot Sunday in San Quentin, one of the most overcrowded prisons in North America. Note how the men cluster in the shade of the large shed. This was before the new cell block was completed and overcrowding was even greater.

The State Parole Board will meet this month and will have before it the question of setting the sentences of three victims of the anti-labor Criminal Syndicalist Law, Caroline Decker, Nora Conklin, and Lorine Norman, and of Louise Todd. All but Lorine Norman, who is out on bail, are in the State Women's Prison at Tehachapi, Calif. The greatest mass pressure for their release must be developed in the next few weeks, by the hundreds of organizations participating in the state-wide campaign for the repeal of the C. S. Law.

After the vicious sentences imposed on the five C. S. victims in San Quentin, it is necessary to redouble the efforts of all labor and progressive forces to arouse a mass protest before the next meeting of the Parole Board, when the Tehachapi cases will be considered.

In addition to the cases of the three C. S. victims, the setting of the sentence of Louise Todd may be acted upon this month. Comrade Todd was convicted of a technical violation of the election law, which all other parties violate with impunity. Her conviction and vicious sentence of one to fourteen years, although she was guilty of no crime, is a clear case of political persecution because of her beliefs, and is directed against the Communist Party and its legal status on the California ballot. The same mass protest which has developed against the Criminal Syndicalist frame-up, must be aroused against the conviction and sentencing of Louise Todd, and for her release. Only mass pressure will defeat this threat against the civil liberties of the people of California.

Old Parties Demonstrate the Need of a Labor Party

By Nat Davis

It took barely two weeks for the so-called "Labor Non-Partisan League" to receive its first crushing answer from an important international union. That answer came in the shape of a Farmer-Labor Party resolution by the convention of the United Automobile Workers Union, which at the same time voted down by 2 to 1 a resolution to support President Roosevelt, introduced on the grounds that "a Farmer-Labor Party national ticket is unlikely."

It will be recalled that the "Labor Non-Partisan League" was set up a short while ago by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, Sidney Hillman, head of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Charles P. Howard of the Typographical Union, and a few other leaders of the Committee for Industrial Organization, which thereby weakened the fight for industrial unionism and organization of the unorganized. Support of Roosevelt weakens the fight for the professed aims of the C. I. O. because it has been under Roosevelt and his Labor Board setup that company unionism has grown so alarmingly, and because Democratic governors like those of Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois have been no whit behind their Republican brothers in sending their militia against strikers.

After meeting with the active opposition of the state legislature, the unemployed "Army of Occupation" in New Jersey, which occupied the State House to force relief, decided that there was nothing to be hoped for in the shape of aid from the capitalist parties, and has decided to initiate a Farmer-Labor Party in that state.

The South Bend Indiana Labor Council, influenced by the recent dispatch of national guardsmen against strikers of the Fine Shirt Plants in that state, announced a Farmer-Labor Party conference for May 15, and endorsed such a party itself.

AFTER THE RUBBER STRIKE

About 14,000 rubber workers struck under A. F. of L. leadership recently in Akron, Ohio. Against them was mobilized a huge army of vigilantes, in whose ranks were to be found Republican and Democratic political leaders. A Republican sheriff tear-gassed the picket lines each day; a Democratic governor stood ready to send the militia. The Central Labor Union of Akron, as a re-

MINIMUM WAGE UNDER FIRE

FACTS AND FIGURES

Hearst—Multi-Millionaire
Hearst, outstanding yellow-journalist, labor enemy and war monger, is a multi-millionaire. He not only owns 28 newspapers and 13 magazines, but eight radio stations, two moving picture companies; large mining interests, 2,000,000 acres of land, hotels, etc. His mining interests include shares in the San Luis Mining Company at San Dimas, Mexico, the Ophir Carbonate Minerals Corporation of Nevada, Anaconda Copper Company and Homestake Mining Company in South Dakota. Homestake is the world's richest gold producer today. Hearst's Mining interests are estimated at around \$15,000,000.

The case is that of Joseph Tipaldo, a laundry owner, accused of violating the New York law. Powerful forces in industry are seeking the smashing of minimum wage laws, as is shown by the fact that Tipaldo, a "cockroach" employer, is having former Governor Nathan L. Miller, a "big shot" corporation lawyer, come forth with objections to the law on "constitutional" grounds.

UNCONSTITUTIONAL

The application of the Minimum Wage Law to women was declared unconstitutional recently by the New York Court of Appeals, which based its decision on the fact that the U. S. Supreme Court rejected 13 years ago a District of Columbia law applying minimum wages for women employees.

The attitude of the Supreme Court on such basic labor questions has not changed since then.

Four of the present members of the court—Justices Southernland, McReynolds, Vandeverter and Butler opposed the law in the District of Columbia 13 years ago.

If the employers meet with success in defeating the application of the law for women, it is certain that they will follow with an attack on application for men.

UNION SPEAKER OFFERS AID TO FIELD WORKERS

CUPERTINO, Calif., May 4.—

All possible aid, financial and moral, was offered the agricultural workers of Santa Clara County in their attempts to organize, here yesterday, by Victor Lazaro, speaking for the Santa Clara County Central Labor Council at the annual May picnic of the Jugoslav Workers Club here yesterday.

"The Santa Clara Central Labor Council and the Building Trades Council will do everything in their power to help you organize yourselves," said Lazaro, who is a member of the Retail Clerks Union.

The necessity of building a broad united front, a Farmer-Labor Party, was stressed by Elaine Black, of the International Labor Defense.

REGISTER COMMUNIST TO BUILD UNITY OF THE WORKING CLASS!

HEARST SCIENCE STORY BRANDED LIE BY EINSTEIN

NEW YORK—(FP)—Dr. Albert Einstein, the world's most famous scientist, has branded as a "falsification" and "irresponsible news story" an article in the Hearst press quoting him as appealing for "aid for science against reds."

In a letter to Joseph Brannin, editor of the Seven Arts feature syndicate, the noted physicist says that a letter he signed to The London Times, asking for help for the Society for the Protection of Science and Learning, "did not mention Soviet Russia at all. This news story is all the more unjust because in recent years I have repeatedly had occasion to ascertain how zealously and successfully science is being cultivated in Soviet Russia."

In a parting shot against the Hearst-spread fake, which appeared in the New York American, April 17, Einstein wrote: "I would be obliged to you if you would find some appropriate means to counteract this irresponsible news story as effectively as possible."

Einstein is a refugee from Nazi Germany, with which William Randolph Hearst has extensive business and personal connections. Instead of fighting "reds," the famous scientist has directed unceasing efforts toward safeguarding scientific knowledge from Hearst's book-burning pals.

FRENCH PARASITES EXPORTING WEALTH TO U. S. A. AND BRITAIN

PARIS, May 5.—Fearing curtailment of their exploitation privileges as a result of the victory of the People's Front in last Sunday's balloting, the wealthy people of France are pouring their funds out of the country at an alarming rate. Exchanging their "profit loot" into British pounds and American dollars and transferring deposits to foreign banks, they have created a veritable hemorrhage of gold pouring from France.

A similar "plunder stampede" occurred in Spain recently when the People's Front triumphed at the polls. Here it was quickly checked by the new government.

AUTHORITY DELAYED

The new government of France is not scheduled to take the reigns until June 1st. Meanwhile, Premier Albert Sarraut and his cabinet are showing very little disposition to halt the flood. To the contrary, active efforts are being made by reactionaries to rush through devaluation of the franc before the new Chamber of Deputies convenes. This action is being attempted despite the fact that the overwhelming majority of France opposed devaluation at the polls and the fact that the left-wing majority newly elected to the Chamber has voiced firm anti-devaluation sentiments.

MOVE TOWARD UNITY

Leon Blum, Socialist leader, has announced that his party is prepared to join in a People's Front Cabinet with Communists and Radical Socialists.

Latest reports show results of the election of deputies to the Chamber to be:

Leftists 378
Center 137
Rightists 99

The most significant gain was that of the Communist Party which won between 71 and 82 seats (present reports vary) as compared with their previous ten.

Armed attacks of the French fascist movement, the Croix de Feu, are regarded as imminent. The reactionary forces are rallying to disrupt the new government and create as much chaos as possible to hamper and discredit the leftist deputies. Fascist newspapers, even before the elections were prophesying that a victory of the People's Front would

SOCIALIST



Leon Blum (above) Socialist leader, one of the leftist deputies elected to the French Chamber by the People's Front.

mean civil war. These fascist bands are heavily armed and their revolvers and machine guns are frequently of German make.

INTERVENTION THREAT

Leon Daudet, chief of the Fascist Ligue d'Action Francaise proclaimed that a people's election victory would bring intervention by Germany to aid their French accomplices.

The unity of labor can and will prevent the victory of fascism!

I Worked Among The Soviets

A FEW ANSWERS TO AMERICAN QUESTIONS

BY An American Worker

I worked in the Soviet Union for close to two years. I hated like hell to come back. It's hard getting readjusted to life under a system where you have to worry about the next meal, or about how you can kid the landlady along, after you've lived and worked under a system which gave you month's vacation each year with full pay, sent you down to the sunny Caucasus; in a country where you never met a single person who had to worry about finding a job.

A big pleasure I did get, when I left the U. S. A. again was the great interest shown in the Soviet Union by dozens of workers I met. They'd been fed up with all sorts of lying hoosiers about the Soviet Union. Some of the questions they asked seemed naive, but I understood that they'd been fed slanderous bunk about the USSR in the movies and in the boss press.

AS FOR SMILES

"Is it true they don't ever smile in Soviet Russia?" one worker asked me. When I looked pained he said, "Listen, I'm only trying to find out the real dope from a guy that's been there. I heard they don't ever smile, and by gosh, I've been told they don't even make love, but take it all as a sort of matter of fact, you know what I mean."

So I described to him the enjoyment I used to get sitting in

The greatest thorn in the side of the fascists is the rapid growth in the membership of the Communist Party of France. Over 102,000 membership cards have been issued from headquarters as compared with 61,700 in March 1935.

Facing grave difficulties in the way of reactionary sabotage, the People's Front forces are nevertheless reported as firm and unwavering. Although the united front agreements between Communists, Socialists and radicals are confined to only a few points, rapid strides toward complete unity have marked the past few weeks.

Little Girl Gets a Big Hand From Stalin



Joseph Stalin is shown welcoming a school anniversary of the establishment of the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic. In the center stands Premier Molotov.

"Lovers' Lane" in Moscow. There's a boulevard, one of many. It's miles long—a long stretch of park, going through the center of one of the main arteries of traffic. Every day tens of thousands of happy people, kids and young and old people, stroll by. You seat yourself on a park bench. Two, three, four workers walk by, arm in arm, a smile a yard wide on their faces. In the opposite direction come strolling two or three young girls, workers too. The group of boys and the group of girls meet. The boys josh the girls, kidding them in the real American workingclass style. The girls kid back. They keep walking on, still in the opposite direction. But that's not the end. The two groups walk a block along "Lovers' Lane," turn around, and meet again. More kidding. Maybe a little horse play—the boys run up behind the girls and scare them. The two groups walk on together this time. The next time they pass your bench, each girl is safely in the tow of one of the

follows. They act as if they'd known each other all their lives. But they'd never met before twenty minutes ago. You hate to leave "Lovers' Lane" on the Boulevard in Moscow on a beautiful spring or summer's day when laughter fills the air.

OWNERS OF CARS

"Say, can a man own an automobile in Russia?" a worker asked me. "Do you own one?" I asked him. "Nope," he said, "I had to hock mine."

I told him about my visit to the Kharkoff tractor plant. There were almost 1000 cars, the Soviet equivalent of the Ford, parked outside the plant. I asked a worker who they belonged to. "To the workers—what do you think?" he asked me, amazed at my ignorance. "One of them's mine. We got them as premiums, houses for good work. We get gas and oil free, too," he said with pride.

CABBAGE SOUP

"I guess you must've got plenty tired of that grub there," another worker said. "Black bread and

cabbage, I couldn't stand it." So I told him about the dozens of new cafés, continental style, opened up in the past year in Moscow, so that the workers could get a chance to spend the extra amount of pay they were making on some of the luxuries they had never known, but which Socialism was beginning to provide them. There's a red-hot jazz band on the platform of each café; the waitresses are as gorgeous a bunch of girls as you'll ever come across anywhere; you can order coffee five different ways—including glacee—which is like coffee ice cream soda, only better. You can order ice cream dishes which make some of the gooey trappées here look like garbage. Then I told this worker about the typical Moscow bakery shop—where you can take your pick of about eighty different kinds of bread and rolls—and there are no such things as bread cards any more.

ABOUT CHURCHES

A Roman Catholic Irish worker seemed worried about the churches

PROFITS RISE STEADILY BUT PAYROLLS STILL LAG BEHIND

FIRST QUARTERLY 1936 REPORT OF LABOR RESEARCH ASS'N

General business during the first quarter, in spite of the bad weather and floods, was estimated at from 12 per cent to 15 per cent above that of the first three months of last year. Residential construction was up 75 per cent. Department store sales (in dollar value) advanced about 9 per cent, rural retail sales about 7.5 per cent, but variety store sales were only 1 per cent above the comparable period last year.

Profit reports for the quarter are not yet available in sufficient numbers to indicate the exact increases recorded by American companies during the first three months of the year. But New York Herald Tribune declared (April 22, 1936) that one tabulation "reveals that the first 101 industrial corporations to report this month had 38 per cent higher profits in the first quarter than in the corresponding three months of last year."

COUPON CLIPPERS

Dividend payments for the quarter, according to New York Times compilation, totaled \$780,912,222, compared with \$658,678,200 during the first quarter of last year—a gain of 18 per cent. Dividend payments for the first three

months of this year were the largest for the first quarter of any year since 1932 when boom-time accumulations were still being paid out to stockholders.

On the working class side of the ledger, the increases were not so favorable. Employment index of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, covering the first three months of the year, showed a rise of only 3.3 per cent over the first quarter of 1935. (Keep in mind also the fact that about 16,000,000 persons in this country were still unemployed, while some 24,000,000 were included in the families of those on relief.)

THE GHOST WALKS

Payroll index of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics did a little better than employment in the first quarter, rising 8.1 per cent above the first quarter of last year. Real wages for the quarter as a whole cannot yet be computed, but the conservative National Industrial Conference Board estimated that real weekly earnings (wages of employed workers in relation to cost of living) were less than 1 per cent higher in February than in February, 1935. And real wages index of the Nation for January showed a rise of only 3 per cent over the low point of 1932.

CHICAGO.—(FP)—A copyright story in the Chicago Tribune sports column says that the American Olympic committee, which had expected to raise at least \$75,000 out of the Olympic basketball tournament in New York was in the red \$482 on the tournament. The baseball division had yielded exactly \$1 and the marathon \$3.

SINGLE MEN ON THE RELIEF ROLLS-- A CALIFORNIA REVIEW

A Former SERA Administrative Employee Gets a Load Off His Chest; What Goes On Behind the Scenes

By a Former Member of the Administrative Staff of the SERA.

Once upon a time (this is not a fairy tale, however) I was on the administrative staff of the SERA. I was first aid attendant in the single, unattached men's division and later was transferred to the WPA in the same capacity. So you who read this can judge that I know whereof I write.

The time was last summer at Santa Rosa. The vigilantes were active; so active, in fact, that workers who, with their families, had picked fruit and hops for years in that locality, packed up and left, saying: "You pick your own hops. We won't work for the starvation wages you pay."

The growers appealed immediately to the relief officials to send men to pick their crops. They received wonderful cooperation. In all the unemployed camps the order was received, "Send 50 men or more (depending on the number of men in each camp), to Santa Rosa." Wages were to be \$1.25 per hundred pounds.

STAKE IT OR SCRAM

The camp superintendent transmitted the call to the unemployed men while they were at their supper. He said: "I have orders to send 50 men to Santa Rosa tomorrow. I want 50 volunteers. If I can't get them, I will have to draft them, and if any I pick out refuse to go, they will have to roll up and get out of camp and they will not be given employment on the WPA, nor can they receive any more relief."

"Now you all know that when we go on the WPA you men will get a real break; a job, wages—not definitely settled yet—but you may get \$30 a month or more."

That is how it was done in the camp I was in and I subsequently learned the same method was applied everywhere.

Five men left from our camp. In all, the SERA and FERA forced between 3000 and 4000 men off their rolls and into the hop fields. Large camps were established to accom-

Fabulous Wealth and Grim Poverty an American Contrast



Above—Mrs. John Gobel of Isabell, Pa., who faces possible death because of an eviction notice handed her husband by E. T. Weir, Pennsylvania steel baron. She's been in bed since the birth of her twelfth child. They are ordered out of the company-owned house because the father joined a union.

Left—Mrs. W. R. K. Taylor, Jr., wearing an even million dollars' worth of fancy jewels.

cial Service," with its corps of "trained" social workers, got active. They wanted each and every man's personal history. There was little of a man's personal life that was known in Caesar's time. Result: hundreds of cases of dysentery.

For lack of water to wash in, a dermatitis (skin disease) known as "hop poisoning," afflicted the men. It is exceedingly irritating and itchy—as bad as poison oak.

Flu and all kinds of like ills spread rapidly through the camps. Here it might be appropriate to ask, "Where was the public health service?"

There are men today, in Camp Clyde and elsewhere, who are suffering a slow and painful death from gastric ulcers and intestinal disorders which they contracted in the Santa Rosa hop fields. These men were forced into the fields against their will—farmed out as slaves so that the big growers and bankers could reap a fat profit.

Those whose health was thus wrecked got no WPA work if they complained. They were called "malingerers" or "Reds" and dropped from the rolls.

COMPETITION

Well, the WPA finally was estab-

lished. The official explanation was: "This goes to take care of the sick for whom no other funds are available."

Again the same old threat, "take it or leave it."

Wages paid on WPA were not as high as men were led to expect. Although the apparent wage was somewhere near the promise, deductions for board and a lot of other listed items, reduced these wages to far below what they sounded like.

The political bureaucracy, the heads of the SERA and FERA, fearing of their jobs, afraid the "Social Service" might take over, the management entirely and they would be separated from their fat salaries, began to throw all kinds of wrenches into the machinery. There was no cooperation between these two branches of the service, both fighting each other for control. Orders were countermanded and camp clerks and other minor functionaries, such as myself, threw up our hands in utter confusion.

But our suffering was nothing compared to that of the enrollees, the real victims of these parasitic vultures. Their rations were cut down and even a 20 per cent cut in pay (\$1 per month) was forced on them under a pretext that the

CLASSIFICATIONS

"Unskilled" workers got \$35 a month, out of which the deductions were made. "Unskilled" meant the kind of a man's work was assigned to do, not the kind he was capable of doing. Men of all kinds of skilled trades and professions were put to work swinging a pick or sweating on the end of a shovel to "improve" property which was owned by a large firm. They performed work by

\$20, and \$35, out of which a man had to buy soap, tobacco, etc., and his clothes. Who said "Social Service" wages?" It actually represented a cut from what little these men received under the SERA. Even the food became less. In no month did the amount allotted for food purchases equal 90 per cent of what was deducted from wages for board.

The "Social Service" lost the battle of the vultures. Politicians ruled the roost. The Forest Service, which sponsored most of these projects, stepped into the picture as project supervisors with fat salaries. Thus dual control was again established and two, or sometimes three, bosses existed in a camp of 150 men.

DEDUCTIONS

Here we have an interesting problem in arithmetic. This is a wage list for a typical camp:

3 Rangers Sub-foremen 135 105
3 Cooks 110 339
3 Project Clerks 120 360
2 First Aid Men 58 110
2 Second Cooks 65 130
1 Purchasing Agent 200 200
1 Area Director 250 250
8 Miscellaneous 125 1000
1 Area doctor 175 175
33 people, total monthly wages: \$4460

sign between buyer and seller to defraud the government.

FORCED LABOR

At present there is a concerted drive in the WPA and the SERA to force the unemployed off the rolls and into the agricultural fields at wages which, in most cases, are less than they were getting on relief.

The San Francisco Chronicle of May 1, 1936, in an item entitled, "WPA Workers to Be Cut in Hardest Fields," states:

McLaughlin admitted WPA was in no position to determine whether prevailing wages could be interpreted as "fair" or "living" wages.

"It is not our job to regulate wages," he said. "Prevailing wage is understood to be one that has been in effect in given communities for the past year or more."

By the middle of June, all single men are to be dropped or transferred from the WPA to other rolls, if any. Also, nearly all projects in rural areas are to be closed down. Any men who refuse to accept this agricultural employment, no matter how low the wages, will be blacklisted.

WHO GAINS?

This naturally raises the question, who benefits by the WPA? Relief for whom? Not for those who need it, because the officials are not taken from the relief rolls. Most of them are political hangers-on and their friends.

As far as the needy are concerned, if they get \$2.00 in cash, it is safe to bet that the parasites get a dollar. I defy the officialdom, from Frank McLaughlin on down, to disprove the above figures.

Do not forget that rent, cost of tools, materials etc. is not even mentioned in the above tables, and in that end there has been tremendous waste of funds. An investigation into that side of the story is badly needed.

From my own observation and knowledge of cost and quality of goods purchased, I claim there was a woful mismanagement, if not downright dishonesty and colu-

WHAT TO DO

This is the situation confronting California's unemployed thousands. The only way they can meet this situation and maintain any kind

Rank and File Seamen Blast Hearst Inspired Sabotage Charge

Point Vincente Seamen Reveal How Lives of the Crew Are Endangered

Discrimination Is Gov't Tactic At Mare Island

The other day the hue and cry of "sabotage" was again raised by the shipowners, and eagerly grabbed up by the capitalist press, against the seamen, who lately on the East Coast have been displaying a great deal of militancy.

This time the cry was raised when the Panama Pacific liner California, scene of a recent strike, was forced to turn back to New York and cancel its voyage to the West Coast. But the fact was so obvious that the California had developed engine trouble although she was supposed to have been thoroughly overhauled for six weeks, that even the company officials the next day denied that there was any evidence of sabotage.

SEAMENS' CLAIM

What the turning back of the California really proved was the contention of a recent delegation of East Coast seamen, who went to Secretary of Commerce Roper and charged that conditions for seamen on American boats are intolerable, and that American shipping concerns operate vessels with absolutely no regard for the safety of passengers at sea. In other words, it remained for the seamen, whom the shipowners like to accuse of "sabotage," to show the only concern that is shown for the safety of the passengers.

One hundred and ten affidavits were submitted to Roper, describing conditions aboard 45 boats of 30 lines. This was the result of a previous conference between Roper and a delegation representing 3500 striking East Coast seamen, at which Roper asked for the information. The seamen listed 90 specific charges against the lines, backed by 110 seamen picked at random in New York harbor. The seamen told of rotten lifeboats, untrained crews hired to replace blacklisted militant men, defective davits, insufficient inspections, inflammable conditions, dangerous conditions in the engineering rooms of outstanding American vessels, oppressive and inhuman conditions in the steward's departments.

One seaman, D. Harker, told how the motor lifeboats of the supposed-to-be crack liner Manhattan were discovered frozen to the decks. Steven Smyk, a seaman aboard the Manhattan, sister ship of the Manhattan, told how a seaman ordered aloft in frozen weather, lost his grip and plunged to his death below. A seaman on the Munson liner Munro said that the men were afraid to chip the rust from the bulkheads of the ship for fear of poking a hole through the plates. These were but a few typical examples of what an American ship is like, told by those in the know—the men who work the ships.

A forthcoming article will show the huge profits of some of the big shipping companies, who under the plea of poverty insist on the right to keep wages down to a coolie level and are ready to sacrifice the lives of passengers and crew members at sea.

Jack McDonald's BOOK STORE

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Also books and pamphlets for students of Communism.
65 Sixth St., San Francisco

GREETINGS TO THE EIGHT-PAGE Western Worker

Italian Workers Club

Circolo Galileo

Greek Workers Club

"Spartakus"

Jugo Slav Workers Club

S. DAHE Round Mountain

There's rather hot controversy among quite a few of our readers regarding what sort of news should be featured in the Western Worker. Some want more workers' correspondence; some (a good many, in fact) want more news of foreign affairs; a few want more features.

Lots of people are reading the Western Worker these days—and they're not all Party Members by a long shot. In fact, Party Members are most lax in this respect. But that so many people—men and women—write in with their criticisms, and their bouquets as well, is a healthy sign.

Beginning this issue, as most readers probably know by this time, the Western Worker comes out as an eight-page paper, twice a week. This is no accident nor is it entirely because the \$7500 sustaining fund drive was successful.

MOVING FAST

So many things are happening in the world today that it would be impossible to report them all in a six page paper; it's going to

RATS STARVE ON RATIONS FED TO RELIEF WORKERS

LONDON, England.—(FP)—Rats, fed on relief rations, live unhappily together, do not increase in weight and become stunted and badly proportioned with poor coats. Disease of the lungs is twice as common among them as among well-fed rats, and gastro-intestinal disease is very frequent.

Skilled workers are hired as helpers, or if they are given skilled work to do they are never given first-class rating on the pay sheet. When a lay-off comes along, Negroes are the first to be fired and the last to be called back.

Colored people can have no use for a government that practices race discrimination. Our present government discriminates on every job it controls—WPA, PWA, civil service and all the rest.

WITNESS TELLS GRUESOME TALE OF TAMPA PLOT

BARTOW, Fla.—(FP)—Complete identification of seven former Tampa cops indicted for the kidnapping of E. J. Pouliot last November and further evidence that the city's police department had used numerous devices to hush up the flogging of the three Modern Democrats came to light as State Atty. Rex Farrior paraded additional witnesses through Bartow's tense little courthouse.

From the lips of John Riegel, W. D. Tampa city watchman, and W. D. Pittsworth, chief of Tampa's detective force, the city's police department came accusations that ex-police Chief R. G. Pittsworth, not more than 3,000,000 are to be cared for by the federal government during the fiscal year 1936-37.

The rest, including the so-called "unemployables," are left to the entirely inadequate resources of states and localities, or will be allowed to starve without any kind of relief.

To what levels of destitution and misery the "unemployables" will be forced is indicated by an FERA report which reveals that state and local governments combined contributed but 25 per cent of the amount expended for relief during 1935.

Average monthly wage of 2,600,000 WPA workers in all parts of the country during the month of December, 1935, was \$41.15—or 17 per cent below the average wage rate of \$50.03 at which workers were assigned.

"APE MAN" HANGED
SAN QUENTIN PRISON, May 1.—First victim of California's "Lindbergh Law," Thomas Edward Dugger, 30, was hanged here today following conviction of assaulting and kidnapping three Los Angeles women during March of last year. Dugger was called the "ape man."

TRUCKERS IN PROGRESS
BAKERSFIELD, Calif.—Sam Smith, business agent of the Truck Drivers' Union here reports that drivers of several new firms have signed up with the union. Among them are King Lumber, Hayward, on strike demanding a 5-day week, Lumber, Cocoa Cola Bottling, and Orange Crush Bottling companies, commission on business over \$40.

Brooklyn Barbers Strike

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Thousands of union barbers have gone out with the union. Among them are King Lumber, Hayward, on strike demanding a 5-day week, Lumber, Cocoa Cola Bottling, and Orange Crush Bottling companies, commission on business over \$40.

These are but a few typical examples of what an American ship is like, told by those in the know—the men who work the ships.

THOUSANDS NEED AND WILL READ THE WORKERS' PRESS—MAKE SUBSCRIBERS OF THEM

And often there's a connection linking a murder with a political set-up or event. This the Western Worker will attempt to reveal.

INTERPRETATION

Every event will be treated, not in isolation as the capitalist press does, but in its relation to the world as a whole. This is what makes a Communist or labor paper unique.

All this preliminary rambling leads up to the final, and main point. Which is: That there are thousands of people in California who not only need but want a newspaper of this type. They write us letters almost every day, telling us so. But there are thousands as well who have never heard of the Western Worker. It's the duty of you, Mr. and Mrs. Reader, to introduce the Western Worker to your friends.

NOT BABY SHOES



"Phooey on sissies," says Mrs. Martha Drew Smith, 24, New York City's only woman blacksmith. She's fitting old Dobbins with a new pair of shoes. Mrs. Smith says though, that prosperity in the smithy industry isn't what it used to be.

THOUSANDS MAY STARVE IN 1936

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Labor Research Association in its monthly publication, "Labor Notes" points out that of the 5,300,000 families and single persons on relief rolls in April, 1936, not more than 3,000,000 are to be cared for by the federal government during the fiscal year 1936-37.

The rest, including the so-called "unemployables," are left to the entirely inadequate resources of states and localities, or will be allowed to starve without any kind of relief.

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"On March 18, 1936," Labor Research points out, President Roosevelt asked Congress to appropriate \$1.5 billion for work relief during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1936. Even with the considerable balance withheld from the relief appropriations for the previous fiscal year, the total in federal funds now scheduled for relief for 1936-37 is at least 11 per cent less than in 1935-36."

Yours Comradely A. S.

STATE TRANSIENT BANS INDICATE BREAKUP IN CAPITALIST ECONOMY

Federated Press

Though the spectacular blockade set up in Colorado against an invasion of "indigent labor" from neighboring states appears to have collapsed under the weight of ridicule and protest, the incident is significant in view of growing attempts to set up petty Balkan frontiers within the nation.

'We Can't Speak'

But They Do

And Say Nothing

WASHINGTON.—(FP)—Unanimous in declaring that they knew nothing about the unemployment problem, that they were unqualified to speak about it, that they were extremely reluctant to discuss it, and that it was only after persuasion that they agreed to make an effort to discuss it, four business leaders discussed the problem of unemployment before the annual convention here of the United States Chamber of Commerce.

I. M. Tate, vice president and secretary of the Weyerhaeuser Sales Co., recommended faith and patience as a means of solving unemployment. He also asked improved selling methods and the perfection of distribution. "That formula has never been improved upon and it never will be," Tate opined, "and somewhere along the line we will find that unemployment has solved itself."

Eugene C. Clark, president of the Chamber of Commerce, recommended increased mechanization in order that the unemployed could be put to work making the new machines to throw men out of work who are on the old machines.

H. B. Bergen, director of industrial relations for Procter & Gamble Co., asked for greater employment of directors of industrial relations and the improvement of management to "tip new sources for discovering new ways of making money."

Lewis H. Brown, president of Johns-Manville Corp., after delving into the dictionary to discover the meaning of "business" and into the census to find out how many people in the United States there are, emerged with the discovery that everyone who works for living is in business and that business men should cooperate in raising a Community Chest fund "for those in real need."

The propaganda is that of the Citizens' Military Training Camps. On the bulletin boards of schools there is usually set up a large colored poster advertising the high schools of California.

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Seeing RED

By Michael Quin

THE BANKER AND THE GUY
"Will you wait a little longer?"
Said the banker to the guy,
"And the streets of every city
"Will be paved with apple pie."

"For the way to solve the crisis
"Is to tighten up your belt,
"And the ice-berg of depression
"Will get warm and quickly melt."

"Oh no," replied the working guy,
"You told me that before,
"And instead of giving apple pie
"You marched me off to war."

"You speak unpatriotic
"And I fear you're going to try
"To upset my profit system,"
Said the banker to the guy.

"If you must have Socialism,
"Will you try my fascist brand?
"We've installed it now in Germany
"And think it's simply grand."

"Oh no," replied the working guy,
"We'll have no fascist state,
"No hoodlum mobs to beat us down
"While parasites dictate."

"Come, come now," said the banker,
"I feel just the same as you.
"I'm a liberal. I'm progressive,
"I want socialism too."

"Sit back and leave it all to me.
"Relax 'till it appears.
"Twill come about quite gradually
"In a hundred million years."

"No thanks," replied the working guy,
"We'd get there just as soon
"By hollering down a rain barrel
"Or whistling at the moon."

"You're radical," the banker said,
"Impractical, seditious.
"Your Communism leaves no room
"For men who are ambitious."

"Ambitious?" said the working guy,
"You should say avaricious.
"You've schemed the food from off our
plates..."
"And now you want the dishes."

"We're frugal men," the banker said,
"And saving is our gift.
"We came by all our fortunes by
"Our management and thrift."

"Your thrift?" replied the working guy,
"You've saved up so much land,
"There's scarce a bit of pavement left
"On which a man can stand."

"You've saved the houses and the trees,
"The earth and all its stones;
"Who knows but what tomorrow you'll
"Be gathering in our bones?"

"All right then," said the banker,
"I have done my best to reason.
"Your head is full of Red ideas,
"Your words are full of treason."

"I will call upon the army
"And the navy and marines
"And your workers' revolution
"Shall be blown to smithereens."

"I'm the guy who wears your uniforms,"
The worker calmly said.
"I don't intend to shoot a gun
"That's pointed at my head."

"We don't want any trouble.
"But we've got to do our jobs,
"And we'll stand for no shenanigans
"From parasitic snobs."

"If your system will not step aside
"There's nothing else to do
"But give your world the bum's rush
"And usher in the new."

* * * *

IN ONE DAY'S PAPER (Capitalist)

Tuesday, May 5, 1936.

The Italian Army entered Addis Ababa.

William Philip Simms, Scripps-Howard foreign editor reports Germany in state of siege facing economic collapse and belligerently threatening Europe with the greatest war machine ever seen.

Muriel Vanderbilt Phelps sues for divorce.

Japanese Envoy Saito declares war in the Orient "unlikely."

A man in Seattle is suing the street car company for 75 cents because he tore his pants on a seat.

San Francisco policemen refuse to answer questions in Grand Jury graft investigation.

THE PHANTOM GAS STATION

By Michael Quin

Mr. Bulge-belly Biddleby handled the wheel of his brand new super-speed luxury sedan with pride and confidence. The glaring headlights sped over the long ribbon of asphalt highway like a runaway streak of lightning, shooting their beams a good hundred yards ahead of the speeding car.

"Self-made" Biddleby, as he always requested his associates to call him, never flickered his lights. Drivers of on-coming small cars dimmed their headlights in a courtesy that was never returned. Biddleby let them suffer the full, blinding glare of his high-powered bulbs.

Speed-cops were of as little concern to Biddleby as any other road rules. Most of the highway patrolmen recognized the glistening elegance of the Biddleby chariot and let it roll by unchallenged.

Whenever one did accidentally hail him, he always pulled over to the side with a certain enjoyment. He would grin sardonically, whip out his extra-size seal-skin wallet, and hand the officer a crisp little card. "Mr. Bulge-belly Biddleby."

He always enjoyed the apologetic confusion that followed.

Owner of 30,000 acres of prime trees and director of twelve San Joaquin Valley banks, Biddleby was of the opinion that Jesus Christ could come and go as he pleased in the promised land.

"Watch your profits," he would tell his associates. "If you can make even a penny profit, then sell. Never take a loss unless you have it well covered by other sales. Always give freely in the direction from which you expect to get. Give in the same spirit that you push seeds into fertile soil."

He regarded himself as something of a philosopher and sometimes wrote little booklets on thrift and loyalty which he gave away free to all his bank employees.

His eyes, glancing for a second from the road, noted on the sterling silver dashboard indicator that his gas was down to the last gallon. He made a little snatched sound with his lips and watched intently for the lights of a service station in the darkness ahead.

A loud splintering of wood brought Biddleby quickly to his senses and he slammed on his brakes in the nick of time. He was off the road and the radiator of his super-speed sedan had crashed through a fence. He took out a handkerchief and mopped his brow.

"Whew!" he gasped. "Another minute and - God! I must be in a daze. That station. No cost. No charge. No profit. Oh God!"

He backed onto the road and continued ahead. He had difficulty keeping his mind on driving. He could scarcely remember leaving the station. He dimly recalled stepping on the starter and shifting gears while that young man stood smiling that uncanny, profitless smile. It seemed to mock him, ridicule him, belittle his businesslike, his go-get-iveness, his self-madness.

When he pulled into Madera, his hands were shaking with a kind of ague. He stopped at the first saloon.

"Whiskey. The best you've got," he stammered.

"Good Lord, man!" said the bartender. "You're shakin' like a flag in the breeze. You look like you've seen a ghost."

"Just about three miles," said the youth. "How's your oil?"

"Better take a look at it," said Biddleby.

The young man probed under the engine hood with a measuring stick. "You could stand about two quarts."

"Give her the best you've got," said Biddleby.

Re-clamping the hood, the young man energetically polished the headlight lenses.

"Better give this windshield a couple of swipes," said Biddleby.

"Yes Sir!" said the youth. He swiped it carefully and pulled it back with a rubber wiper.

Biddleby whipped out his extra-size seal-skin wallet bulging with crisp bills. "How much do I owe you?"

"Oh, don't mention it," said the young man politely. "We're glad to be of help to you. Please come in again whenever you need anything."

A wave of inexplicable fear swept Biddleby. " - the gas - the

cost - say, what are you talking about? How much do I owe you?"

"I'm glad enough to have been able to serve you," said the youth. "I really couldn't take anything. Sir. In fact, it's strictly against our principles. It would sort of - well - it would spoil the whole thing - commercialize it, so to speak."

Biddleby was silent for a moment, and a pink, feverish color mounted slowly to his cheeks. His voice had a note of panic and pleading when he spoke. He held out a bank-note.

"Please take it. What do you mean? You can't do this. You can't do it! Profits. Business. Take it! For God's sake take it!"

The young man froze with offended dignity. "I'll thank you not to be offensive, Sir. I have been pleased to serve you. I will be pleased to serve you again. But kindly do not insult me by offering me money."

Biddleby poked the bill back in his wallet with trembling fingers. "What - whose station is this?"

"This is the 'New World' service station, service with a smile and without vulgarity," said the youth.

A loud splintering of wood brought Biddleby quickly to his senses and he slammed on his brakes in the nick of time. He was off the road and the radiator of his super-speed sedan had crashed through a fence.

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"Oh, don't mention it," said the young man politely. "We're glad to be of help to you. Please come in again whenever you need anything."

A wave of inexplicable fear swept Biddleby. " - the gas - the

cost - say, what are you talking about? How much do I owe you?"

"I'm glad enough to have been able to serve you," said the youth. "I really couldn't take anything. Sir. In fact, it's strictly against our principles. It would sort of - well - it would spoil the whole thing - commercialize it, so to speak."

Biddleby was silent for a moment, and a pink, feverish color mounted slowly to his cheeks. His voice had a note of panic and pleading when he spoke. He held out a bank-note.

"Please take it. What do you mean? You can't do this. You can't do it! Profits. Business. Take it! For God's sake take it!"

The young man froze with offended dignity. "I'll thank you not to be offensive, Sir. I have been pleased to serve you. I will be pleased to serve you again. But kindly do not insult me by offering me money."

Biddleby poked the bill back in his wallet with trembling fingers. "What - whose station is this?"

"This is the 'New World' service station, service with a smile and without vulgarity," said the youth.



Elect Carpenter Delegates in June

NEW YORK. — After eight years without a convention, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners will finally hold one in Lakeland, Fla., in December. Elections for delegates will take place in June.

Controlled by the viciously reactionary Hutchison-Duffy machine, the union has rapidly gone down hill, trade union democracy has been smashed, and union conditions almost disappeared. Union meetings are attended by a handful.

If this state of affairs is to be changed, progressives point out, members must begin attending meetings prior to the convention, and discuss the vital issues before the carpenters at the June elections. In this way delegates instructed to win changes in the union constitution that will bring trade union democracy, can be elected.

Demand Removal of AFL Oriental Ban

HONOLULU.—The last session of the Longshoremen's Association of Honolulu adopted a resolution calling for the waiving of all consideration of citizenship in respect to admission of workers to the A. F. of L. The resolution proposes that an amendment to this effect be added to the A. F. of L. constitution.

The resolution was adopted because two-thirds of the workers on the Hawaiian Islands are orientals, and the majority of the waterfront workers are island-born Japanese. The resolution points out that these Japanese workers have proven their loyalty to unionism in the last two minor strikes, despite threats of deportation if union books are found on them.

"Are you trying to infer I am mad?" screamed Biddleby. "I'll have you thrown off the force. I'll blacklist you so you won't get a job in the whole state."

"I'm sorry Mr. Biddleby, but -" In the struggle to wrest the determined Biddleby from the wheel, the car swerved from the road and nosed into a ditch. The sturdy bartender was obliged to sit on the writhing Biddleby before the officer could fix handcuffs on him.

Months later, Biddleby was allowed to leave the sanitorium, but he seldom if ever leaves his house any more, and when he does, the shades on his sedan are drawn tight and a chauffeur sits at the wheel. The sight of a gas station throws him into uncontrollable convulsions.

His associates shake their heads regretfully when they think of old Biddleby. A great money maker. A great brain. The same thing might happen to any executive.

And they never cease to shudder in horror and recall the story of the phantom gas station when they pass the spot three miles above Madera going South.

TAKE THAT

MADISON, Wis.—(FP)—"We didn't deem the letter worthy of reply," University of Wisconsin regents told John B. Chaple, Chicago Tribune's candidate for governor of Wisconsin. Chaple wanted the regents to bar student May Day celebrations from the campus. Chaple, a regate radical, specialized as a political editor.

REPEAL THE CRIMINAL SYNDICALISM ACT! 240,000 SIGNATURES BY JUNE 10TH!

GENTLEMEN, WE HAVE MADE A SUBSTANTIAL PROFIT DURING THE PAST FISCAL YEAR. BUT OUR PROFITS ARE NOT ENOUGH! OUR COMPETITORS, NOT ONLY ARE UNDERCUTTING OUR SELLING COSTS, BUT THEY PAID 11% ON THEIR COMMON STOCK COMPARED TO OUR 9%!

Z UPSTART, MILLIONAIRE PRESIDENT OF THE COMPANY, IS ADDRESSING THE MEETING.

WHY JOHN, WHAT'S THE TROUBLE? YOU LOOK UPSET! I AM, MA. THEY'VE JUST HANDED US ANOTHER PAY CUT!

WHAT WILL THIS WAGE CUT MEAN TO THE JOHN SMITH FAMILY?

DON'T MISS NEXT WEEK'S INSTALLMENT.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

FASCISM

Mussolini has captured Ethiopia in the name of Fascist "civilization." Just what kind of a civilization this is can be determined by a reading of "In The Dungeons of Mussolini," by Carlo Rossi, price 5 cents. There are many kinds of hells but the Fascist Hell has no counterpart today.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM

The issue of industrial unionism has become tremendously important these last few months. The Committee on Industrial Organization (C. I. O.) headed by John L. Lewis has issued some excellent material. Among these you should read ad pass on to your brother unionists are: *Industrial Unions Mean Unity*, price 10 cents; *The Case for Industrial Organization*, price 10 cents; *Industrial Unionism*, price 10 cents. All these are published by the C. I. O. and can be had in bundles at reduced rates. Also *The Future of Organized Labor*, by Lewis, price 5 cents.

Industrial Unionism, by William Z. Foster, price 5 cents, is a pamphlet that should be on your required reading list by all means. William Foster has been in the forefront of the fight for industrial unionism and organization of the unemployed for a good many years.

Not only does he know his subject but he writes interestingly and popularly. He treats of the situation on the Pacific Coast as well as nationally.</

Vital Issues Face Quarterly Meet of A.F.L. Executives

WASHINGTON.—The quarterly meeting of the A. F. of L. Executive Council began on May 5th. Vital issues for organized labor face the meeting, which the Executive Council cannot duck this time.

One of them is the organization of a campaign to unionize the workers in the steel industry on an industrial union basis. The recent offer of \$500,000 by the Committee for Industrial Organization towards a steel organization drive forced William Green to a gesture, at least, toward organizing these workers, and Green sent out letters to all heads of national and international unions asking what they could contribute toward a drive in steel.

LABOR AND POLITICS

The question of labor in politics is a second important matter before the Council. The A. F. of L. top officials are faced with the plain fact that hundreds of labor bodies have come out for the Farmer-Labor Party, and many are in the actual leadership of the movement.

Recently John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers; Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers; and George L. Berry, president of the Printing Pressmen, led in the formation of a so-called Labor Non-Partisan League, whose object is to line up the A. F. of L. unions behind Roosevelt. This was followed by a letter by Green to the union bodies advising them to remain non-partisan in politics, by which Green meant to support candidates of both parties—the old “reward your friends, punish your enemies” policy.

The Lewis bloc seriously weakened the fight for industrial unionism by coming out for Roosevelt, under whom company unions have flourished as never before. One main object of industrial unionism is to more effectively fight company unionism’s growth.

The question of the Committee for Industrial Unionism will also most likely figure prominently at the Executive Council meeting. The Council has gone to the length of expelling a Central Council (in Allegheny County, Pa.) for taking part in the fight for industrial unionism. Practically every one of the 17 members of the Council are hide-bound leaders of the fight for craft unionism.

Progressives Set For Clothing Meet

NEW YORK.—The national convention of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, comprising 150,000 members, will open in Cleveland on May 11. The Amalgamated Progressive Circle and the Amalgamated Rail and File Committee, representing the progressive trends in the union, have issued a joint declaration which contains a militant program for discussion at the convention.

The declaration praises President Sidney Hillman for his progressive stand on industrial unionism, but points out that promises made at the last union convention two years ago have not been fulfilled. Speedup in shops has increased and minimum wages have not been established.

The 36-hour week has not been enforced except in slack periods; the joint declaration points out that proposals in the declaration include a guaranteed minimum wage of \$1 an hour as a basis; a classification system in all clothing centers; strict observance of the 36-hour week; and full inner union democracy.

Western Worker

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One Nation, Indivisible, With Liberty and Justice for All



POVERTY—MULTIPLIED BY THREE
Gives Birth to Triplets in an Old Schoolhouse



Mrs. Aubrey O’Neil Kiser, 22, shown with her triplet boys born in an abandoned schoolhouse in remote western Pennsylvania mountains, near Somers. Jolts for two years, Walter, 23, year old father, moved his family into school building, paying \$2 month rent. There were no clothes for babies, doctor who delivered them on emergency call who since brought clothes, milk, nurses



Above—A typical posed picture such as newsreels and slick-paper magazines use to portray the untroubled joy of young American womanhood.

Below: Young American womanhood gets out on the streets and tells a different story.

Upper Right—Living conditions in California agricultural fields. The mother pictured has scant time for sprouting under brightly colored umbrellas and running around in sunshiny slacks.

Upper Left—Atypical evicted family. Life is no pleasure beach for them.

The other picture speaks for itself.



The Diary of a Class Conscious Seaman

INTRODUCTION

Beginning a new series by the seaman-writer whose name is well known to Western Worker readers from his recent column “Rip Tides.”

CHAPTER I.

Today is “signing on day.”

The way the U. S. Shipping Commissioner explains it, this represents an agreement entered into between the crew and the master of the ship. As a matter of fact the “agreement”—which is better known as “articles”—to seamen is a decidedly one-sided pact, in the master’s favor.

When the seamen signs the articles he is automatically bound hand and foot to the wishes of the captain—to the captain’s dictates. He is compelled to take the ship wherever the master may direct—war zones or dangerous waters are not mentioned.

He is forbidden to go ashore—unless the master consents. Protection from hostile authorities in other ports is something unheard of. More than often the skipper actually gives the authorities a hand. A threat of fine against his ship, or some delay in sailing, and the average skipper will hand his crew over unhesitatingly.

One more reason for holding a joint meeting as soon as possible!

As the steward’s department lined up to sign on, a short, paunchy individual wearing thick glasses and a walrus moustache kept barking, “Have your union books in your hand or you can’t sign on.”

WHERE IS THE HIRING?

I asked five stewards in succession who the fellow was. Not one of them knew. I tried to find the steward’s delegate . . . And I learned later he was the union patriarch. And shipping is through the hell!

AN AMERICAN SEAMAN

For example—take the unfortunate member of the crew of the S.S. Manhattan, George Simpson. He is still lying in a Nazi jail. (Which reminds me . . . They’d have to take just about the whole crew off this ship. All of us have some kind of anti-fascist literature aboard.)

And while I’m on the subject of literature. We could all take lessons from the seafaring church apostleships on how to distribute literature. I sat in the fo’c’sle all day and didn’t miss a thing of what was going on. And yet, at the end of the day, on the table, are a score of religious pamphlets. One of the fellows, with more than a little touch of irony, very carefully distributed the literature on the bunks of the two biggest drunks on the ship.

Literature goes straight into lockers to be broken out at sea for careful reading.

READING OF ARTICLES

We lined up in the third-class dining room to hear the commissioner read off the articles. Expressions ranged from bored interest to open guffaws as we listened to him caution against “getting drunk.”

“You will be logged two days pay for one if you get drunk and can’t turn to,” the commissioner declared. “And I’m no company man,” he added.

“Last trip one of the guys called me a ‘company man’ because he made him a log against us stick when we refused to work in the heat down in Manila,” a neighbor whispered to me as I joined in the horse-laugh that greeted the commissioner’s final words.

This evening I handed Bozart a copy of “Why a Farmer-Labor Party in the United States.” He looked it over carelessly and tossed it back on my bunk. What are you going to do with people like that?

Paid off and signed on, the gang has scurried ashore for one last night.

Me too.

(To Be Continued.)

UNITY NEEDED

An incident occurred which, while very much to my dislike, nevertheless displays too clearly a situation existing aboard ships—a situation that should not exist. We had finished our chow and had gone for our money. “They were paying the cugneroos,”

forward to a Front Populaire government. Not so much because of the photographs—any mother likes to have photographs of her family if she can possibly afford them. But because of what lies behind the photographing—the repression, the terror, the “red-baiting.” She looks to the Front Populaire victory as a step toward the end of both terror and hunger.

A good many French wives find they can’t get along without a fireless cooker. You start a stew, get it cooking briskly, then put it to bed in the fireless cooker—which is nothing more or less than a couple of thick pillows in

Mass Picketing Policy Adopted By L. A. Council

LOS ANGELES, May 2.—Mass picketing of firms where workers are on strike, will be carried out by the Central Labor Council, following unanimous decision of the delegates at last night’s council meeting here.

Each union affiliated to the council is to delegate from five to 25 workers every Saturday for picket duty, according to the resolution adopted, which had been drafted last Wednesday night at a meeting of many unions.

A committee of seven was elected at the council meeting to act as a steering committee.

RED SQUAD AGAIN

Red Squad intimidation of strikers at the Dietrich Optical Company, was reported by Delegate Johnson of the Optical Technicians Union.

Delegate Stoneman of the Culinary Workers reported they were picketing the LaSalle Club Restaurant on Broadway. She stated the Culinary Workers’ Joint Executive Board requested that the Labor Temple Cafeteria, which is privately operated, be placed on the unfair list. The request was referred to the Council Executive Board.

Some unions were accused by Delegate Stoneman of hiring seafarers as their waitresses at their banquets.

“We are serving notice on these unions that unless they get rid of us, we will picket their next banquet,” she declared.

PROTEST TERROR

Unanimous approval was given a motion to protest to the Mayor and City Council the use of gas on peaceful pickets, and the vicious attack by police upon the picket line of the Venice agricultural workers.

The Tom Mooney mass meeting, arranged by the Council, will be held May 15th in the Labor Temple Auditorium.

Although the Council has placed the General Motors Company on the official unfair list and has sent letters to central labor bodies all over the country requesting similar action, it was brought out by a delegate that 60 per cent of the workers on the General Motors’ plant construction job are union men.

“This situation,” explained C. J. Haugerty, secretary of the Building Trades Council, “is a result of the International unions signing separate agreements with the employers.”

Another delegate reported that steps are being taken so that such a situation will not occur again.

Local 430, American Federation of Teachers, applied for affiliation to the Council, and the application was granted.

To Start Big Drive To Organize Auto

DETROIT.—With the convention of the United Automobile Workers ended at South Bend, the newly elected progressive officers and executive board will meet here in a few days to start the ball rolling for the big organization drive which the convention decided on. \$250,000 will be spent in the organization campaign. The convention sent a hot telegram to Hearst’s Chicago Herald Examiner branding as a lie the Hearst headline declaring that “40,000 Auto Workers Quit Federation.”

CANONSBURG, Pa.—The 61st annual convention of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers elected a committee of five to confer with the Committee for Industrial Organization regarding the latter’s offer of \$500,000 toward a drive to organize the steel industry on an industrial union basis.

Progressives report that even some of the old-timers have gone over to support of the C. I. O. offer.

Chi., Wisconsin Guilds for AFL

CHICAGO.—By unanimous vote the Chicago Newspaper Guild has instructed its delegates to the American Newspaper Guild Convention to vote for affiliation to the A. F. of L. It also called on its delegates to persuade other delegates to do the same.

The Milwaukee Guild, leading a strike against the Hearst Wisconsin News, has taken similar action, spurred on by the splendid support displayed by A. F. of L. unions toward the strike.

The national convention opens in New York on May 29.